

U.S. Patent Appl. 10/531,441

Amendments to the Abstract:

ABSTRACT

Please replace the abstract that appears on page 16 of the specification with the following revised abstract which is submitted on a separate sheet.

ABSTRACT

~~The invention relates to a~~ flowmeter [(1)] comprising at least two ultrasonic transducers [(2, 3)] that are mounted on a container [(7)] which is penetrated by a medium [(9)] in a certain direction of flow [(S)]. ~~Said The~~ ultrasonic transducers [(2, 3)] alternately transmit and receive ultrasonic test signals in the direction of flow [(S)] and counter to the direction of flow [(S)]. The ~~inventive~~ flowmeter [(1)] further comprises a control/evaluation unit [(6)] which determines and/or monitors the volume flow of the medium [(9)] inside the container [(7)] based on the difference in the travel time of the ultrasonic test signals propagating in the direction of flow [(S)] and counter to the direction of flow [(S)]. The ~~inventive~~ ultrasonic transducers [(2, 3)] are configured such that they transmit and receive ultrasonic test signals or sound fields having a large aperture angle [(g)] or a great beam expansion.